

School:	Student:	Date:	STAGE OF SCHOOLING:	ES 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	S1 <input type="checkbox"/>	S2 <input type="checkbox"/>	S3 <input type="checkbox"/>
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EXPLANATION

Purpose: to tell how and why things occur in scientific and technical fields.

The following assessment tasks provide students with opportunities to demonstrate their understanding of an explanation and to produce an explanation in a meaningful context.

Assessment Tasks <i>Select tasks to meet the student's stage of schooling and level of language ability.</i>		<i>Teachers should listen for the following common grammatical features of explanation related to the task selected:</i>	Comment on student's work samples to indicate strengths and needs.
	Draw and label life-cycle or process - fill in blank labels and match to appropriate stages.	STRUCTURE: Explanations are organised to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an identifying statement about what is to be explained (the 'statement of phenomenon'); • a series of events known as the 'explanation sequence' where the events may be related according to time or cause, or according to both relationships; • a 'concluding statement' (this stage is optional). Explanations may include visual images, e.g. flow charts and diagrams, which need to be carefully examined. GRAMMAR: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • general and abstract nouns, e.g. • action verbs; • simple present tense; • passive voice; • conjunctions of time and cause; • noun groups, e.g. <i>the large cloud, particles of gas and dust</i>; • abstract nouns, e.g. <i>the temperature</i>; • adverbial phrases; • complex sentences; • technical language. 	
	Write a simple explanation to match a labelled diagram/flow chart (e.g. life-cycle of a frog, a plant or a process).		
	Sequence and label a diagram of a familiar process - e.g. a plant growing, frog or butterfly life-cycle (referring to word-banks of topic words if necessary).		
	Write a sequenced explanation of how a common machine (e.g. torch, can-opener) works, using diagrams for support.		